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# HAMILTON LIFE

*The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College*

VOL. XII CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1910 No. 13

## Advisory Board

COLLEGE TO VOTE ON A NEW SCHEME FOR REVENUE

At a meeting of the Advisory Board last Thursday a new scheme for financing the College activities was proposed. In place of present subscriptions, gate receipts, and entrance fees to field and track competitions paid by students, there will be levied a per capita tax on all members of the undergraduate body.

HOW LEVIED AND APPORTIONED

A Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall be created, consisting of the officers of this association and the managers. This Board shall make up the budget and fix the tax for the ensuing college year. It shall also apportion to each manager for the use of his department such a sum as it shall consider to be practicable and proper for that department.

To facilitate the making up of the annual budget, at the close of each year each retiring manager shall file with the treasurer of this association a report of the affairs of the team or club he has managed, which report shall show in detail all income and the source of every item, and all expenditures with authorizations and vouchers for the same. The new manager shall at the same time submit a careful and detailed estimate of the amount of money likely to be required for his team during the next college year.

HOW COLLECTED

The annual tax shall be paid n three parts; one at the beginning of each term. On days when students pay their term bills and at the same time and place, the treasurer of this association shall sit to receive the athletic tax.

To each man who pays his tax the treasurer shall issue a term ticket (non-transferable) which shall serve both as a receipt for the tax and as a pass to all the games on the athletic field or in the gymnasium.

Any student who is not able to pay the tax levied in any term and who will satisfy the president of this association as to his inability may obtain from him a written remission of part or all the tax, as circumstances require.

To maintain a good and regular standing in the college affairs controlled by this association, and to enjoy its privileges and benefits, a student must either pay his tax or obtain a remission. Failing to do one or the other a man shall be deemed to have forfeited all his rights in student activities.

Gouge, '11, was nominated manager of football to succeed Riley, '12, resigned. Martin, '11, manager of track was given permission to enter a mile relay team at the Columbia University Indoor Games at Madison Square Garden, March 12.

It is stated that no ice skating rink can be built until there is a greater volume of water in the reservoir.

## Musical Clubs

HEMENWAY, '10, WILL LEAD THE INSTRUMENTAL CLUB

With the beginning of the Winter Term, the Musical Clubs have attacked with new vigor their work in preparation for the Winter and Spring trips.

Charles F. Hemenway, '10, has been elected leader of the Mandolin Club in place of I. A. Hall, '10, who was compelled to resign from both clubs on account of eye trouble. Hemenway has played a mandolin on the club for three years and has always been a hard worker. He has taken up the new responsibility with spirit and industry.

The Glee Club has been practising four times a week, giving special attention to the new Campus Medley and Tutti-Frutti, arranged by W. H. Stone, '10. The new medleys are tuneful and harmonious, and are sure to make a hit on the program.

Concerning the probable program it is announced that a violin duet by Heidner and Woods, '13, will be substituted for the selections by the mandolin quartette. Another feature will be a rather unique program bearing a photograph of the Campus.

Manager Engs announces the following schedule for the Winter trip of the Musical Clubs: February 16, Lowville; February 17, Watertown; February 18, Oswego; February 19, Mexico. This trip covers the northern part of the state. During Easter vacation the clubs will tour down the Hudson, but dates have not yet been definitely arranged.

## Rochester Convention

"In all the history of the Colleges of the United States and Canada there has never been a convention which presented a summons so impressive, so momentous, so imperative, as that of the Rochester Convention, held at the beginning of the new year and the new decade."

These are the words of John R. Mott, the leader of the Student Volunteer Movement, the man who in the estimation of President Schurman is the "most famous alumnus Cornell ever graduated."

What was the Rochester Convention? Numerically it was a gathering of nearly four thousand earnest, live, thorogoing men and women from all over the United States and Canada. Almost three thousand of this number were undergraduates of the colleges and universities of North America. The other thousand was made up of Professors, Missionaries and Leaders of the movement.

The purpose of the convention might be given as the Consideration of the Watchword of the Student Volunteer Movement, "The Evangelization of the World in This Generation." The topic of consideration was not Asia alone, nor Africa, nor America, but the whole world, from pole to pole. If ever there was a demonstration of real Christian fraternalism, it was at Rochester. As a result of this world-wide vision Rochester became important to every delegate because of its broadening influence. The marvelous success of scores of colleges along Christian lines was great encouragement for those who had not felt the real throb and pulse of Christianity in their college. It was a great privilege to attend the Rochester Convention.

Perhaps never before had such a strong army of leaders and speakers been gathered together. John R. Mott and Robert E. Speer are considered the greatest men in this work. Ambassador Bryce of Great Britain was one of the principal speakers. Julius Richter came all the way from Germany to speak to the volunteers for twenty minutes. Dean Bosworth of Oberlin, A. J. Brown of New York, Dr. Twernem of Arabia, and Bishop McDowell of the Methodist church, were other important speakers. Hamilton was ably

represented among the leaders of the convention by H. Roswell Bates, 95, of New York city. Mr. Bates is fast becoming one of the most useful men of our day. Hamilton's systematic giving is used for Mr. Bates' work, but the paltry twenty dollars or less that we send him would surely be greatly increased if we could all know of his great work in Spring street, New York.

The number of delegates who were allowed to attend was limited to two men from each college, and one more for every additional two hundred students in the institutions. Hamilton was allowed two delegates, and by a special arrangement obtained consent for a third man. The delegates were Robinson, '10, Gaige, '11, and Colson, '11. It is thru such agencies as Rochester, Nashville and Northfield that the greatest possibilities of our student lives are realized. For those who were at the recent Convention the magical word for the next four years will be Rochester!

### NEW YORK ALUMNI

The Hamilton Alumni Association of New York held its 42nd annual dinner at the Hotel Astor, last Tuesday evening. Nearly one hundred were present including Dr. Stryker and several of the trustees of the College.

Dr. A. Norton Brockway, president of the association, presided and introduced Dr. Stryker and the other speakers. Dr. Stryker reaffirmed his belief in a strictly classical education and his intention that Hamilton shall continue to offer such a course. The other speakers were George E. Dunham, '79, of Utica; Dr. William Bartlett, '52, Col. William M. Griffith, '80, Rev. J. H. Hoadley, '70 and William S. Hotchkiss, '86, State Superintendent of Insurance, and Dr. Anthony S. Evans.

A poem was read by Joseph E. Tinker, '57, and a loving cup presented to Dr. Brockway by Dr. Stryker in behalf of the alumni. The speeches were interspersed with college songs.

At the close of the evening the association elected Prof. N. Archibald Shaw '82, president for the coming year.

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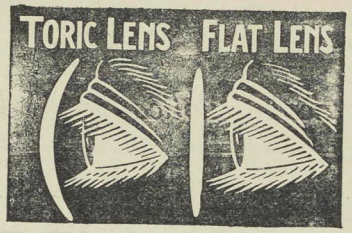

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THE NEW SYSTEM for financing college activities, which is proposed in another column of this issue, cannot be commended too highly. It will surely fill a long-felt want. In the past the distribution of the student support of the several athletic departments has been far from just. Some men have given more than they could rightly afford, others much less than they could have very ably subscribed, and still other men have given nothing whatever. That this was a deplorable state of affairs has been obvious for some time past, but the correct method for remedying the difficulty was not so apparent. The past Football season is ample proof of the inadequacy of the present system. The financial straits of the Football department at the close of the season was due to no other reason than lack of support on the part of the College. Now we do not mean to infer that Hamilton men are not loyal enough to properly support Hamilton teams. Rather we would say that the trouble was due to a lack of a systematic method for obtaining that money from the student body. And what is more the Manager, or for that matter, the Assistant Manager, should not be obliged to spend most of his time dunning men for money, and the worst feature of it is that he does not always have the satisfaction of obtaining the promised fund. It would seem unnecessary to say anything further in order to fully show the worthlessness of the present unsystematic method. The difficulty has long been obvious.

The new scheme which has been proposed should solve all the problem. Ample funds will be secured by a per capita tax to properly finance our activities. If perchance there is someone who can not afford to pay the tax, by showing the fact he can be released from the obligation. It will be low enough to be within the means of everyone. And what is just as important an adequate method of collecting it is proposed. The matter will come before the student body at a meeting to be held next Saturday, and everyone is urged to be present to vote on it. LIFE cannot urge the College too strongly to adopt the plan. It will surely settle a trouble which has long been the burden of Hamilton Managerships.

DURING THE PAST TERM the Junior Prom Committee has been exerting its best efforts to make the coming festivities a great success. Now its labor is almost completed, and all that is needed in order to fulfill its ambition is the loyal and hearty support of the College. It would seem entirely unnecessary to inform anyone of the personal enjoyment that can be derived from Junior Week. Any of us who have ever attended one can verify that fact. That, if there were no other reason should be sufficient to assure the attendance of a large part of the student body. But that is not the point. Junior Week is a Hamilton activity, and, as such, should receive our hearty support. LIFE trusts that it will not be lacking. It is not yet too late. Those of you, who have not already done so, can write tonight.

"GONE HENCE WITHOUT Date or Degree," was an epitaph frequently pronounced by Square Root upon those unfortunates who fell by the wayside. The worst of it is—and the wonder—that there are so many failures each term and that the number is increasing. It is axiomatic that a man ought to do enough work to stay in college; it is usually no one's fault but his own if he doesn't. LIFE has nothing but sympathy for the few fellows who fail for lack of mental or physical ability, but for the ones whose failures are attributable to laziness, too much attention to ex-curricular matters, indifference and the like, LIFE has this to say:

A man who is thoroly loyal to himself and to those for whom and with whom he works, will wear the flesh from his bones rather than fail and be dropped. A college man unswervingly loyal to his parents, his preparatory school, his college society, his class, the college itself, will first of all meet enough college requirements to maintain a creditable standing. If he does not, he fails loyally to reward his parents' hopes, he brings discredit to his preparation, he calls unfavorable attention to his fraternity, he weakens his class, and in Hamilton particularly, where numbers mean so much, and where it is our constant effort to increase the size of the student body, he shortens the roll, not merely by his unit, but by whatever number of friends and acquaintances who thru him have thought of Hamilton as their choice. Would you be drawn to a college because a friend of yours had gone there and failed? What undergraduate may be pointed out as a model of loyalty if he is notably negligent in his college work? And if he fails—how many college failures are numbered among Hamilton's loyal sons? Loyalty means labor—enough labor to let you stand, if not in the commissioned line at least in the ranks, and answer "Here!" so long as your class roll shall be called.

To the Editor of LIFE:

Permit me to express my interest in the letters and discussions recently appearing in your columns on the subject of football, particularly those of Dick Drummond and Prof. Lewis. With your consent let me add a few thoughts, not especially with a view to publication but as an expression of the impression recent football history at Hamilton has made on an alumnus whose interest in the college and the game is deep and abiding.

At the outset I want to say that I side more with Mr. Drummond than with Mr. Lewis. I believe that football is not only a great factor in what may be called the outsider's interest in the college, but it contains those germs of man-building, both mental and physical, which should make it always a desirable part of a young man's training. My brief experience at work tells me that the ex-football-players are standing the demands on nerve and brain and body better than most of those who did not play the game. I have worked side by side with college men four years now and I have seen those who played football come to the office with unbroken regularity and advancement where the others unaccustomed to continued strain were not able to do so. So much for my observations of the results of the game on men.

Its results on the college, judging entirely from the columns of LIFE, and what few home papers I could find, have not been all that can be desired. Mr. Lewis is perfectly right, of course, when he says that Hamilton loyalty

cannot be affected materially by any sport. But he must confine the limits of his statement to those men who know the college well in its other features. Loyalty to the college should be found not only in its attendants, but in those who may become such, our younger brothers, cousins, friends, in other words. To these, it seems to me, the game of football must be the chief incentive to that sub-loyalty which is at the bottom of all large registrations and a successful football team is always the largest factor in creating this. Most Prep School men follow the prevailing enthusiasm and this has been football for fifteen years, largely because young men require some big energetic play for their developing bodies and a strenuous athletic pursuit for their fetish—not an unhealthy sign by any means. No energetic youth is well impressed with a student body which does not contain numbers of successful athletic devotees.

And Hamilton never will be in danger of losing the stress on the mental through football. My experience tells me that we may safely leave it to good old Prex and his associates to see that we don't shirk the books. A further argument for earnest consideration of means to promote the game is that loyalty and cooperation in a small college are absolutely dependent on an ever present need to work for the survival of its reason for being. The big fellow doesn't have to work to keep in the limelight, the little fellow does. And just here is the secret of the good fellowship and earnestness of the life at Hamilton and kindred institutions. Take away the means for the manifestation of this spirit, or retard them, or even permit them to get to a point where success seems impossible, and interest, if not loyalty, is gone. To make the point concrete, football appeals to me as the game or the object around which to rally our forces of enthusiasm. Get the material for a winning team and see how soon the columns of LIFE would lose complaint that college spirit is declining. It seems to me that this thing is psychological. One needs excitement in some form to be enthusiastic. One needs enthusiasm to be interested and to transmit his enthusiasm to others. Without transmission of Hamilton enthusiasm to others, how can the college progress? Football supplies both interest and enthusiasm. Why not find a scheme to promote it?

As a practical suggestion, I have noticed an article in a recent issue of the Binghamton Press, detailing the success of some of its recent High School graduates at football in other institutions. We have always drawn heavily from this institution. Why not get McLean and Fred Welch, and Croft, and Moody and the others at work on these men and get some of them out on Steuben field in the fall? This year the Binghamton team had one defeat at the hands of Syracuse High School, and defeated comfortably the University Freshmen, Cook Academy, Wilkesbarre, Utica and other High Schools. The clipping refutes Mr. Lewis's statement that "a boy—who seeks distinction on the football field would hardly be likely to choose any small college." Witness also the teams of Williams, Amherst, Dartmouth and Colgate. Distinction is far more sure in the small field than in the large.

Good luck to Judge Drummond's suggestion of a meeting in June to consider the needs of the college. May it result in a football team that will justify the remark of that Colgate editor, of good sporting blood, whom you recently quoted to the effect that all colleges have good as well as weak teams periodically. And may we get back to a team that will play its final game with Colgate on an equality of power.

Yours very truly,

H. A. SPEH, '05.

## DECEMBER LIT.

In literary merit the December LIT seems to me distinctly inferior to the high standard set by some other recent numbers. I wish, however, to again commend the men who made LIT what it is, not only for giving the College so excellent a literary monthly, but this much more important function for aiding largely in developing among the undergraduates a better prose style. Every year I feel more strongly that the traditions and influences at Hamilton which are particularly inspiring and helpful to the speaker and oral rhetorician, and which are highly successful in encouraging self expression whether by tongue or pen, are on the whole not entirely favorable conditions for literary composition. Most of our writing betrays the oratorical roll, the clang and bang of emphasis, the gaudy tone-color, the strained structure of a somewhat flamboyant style of public speech. Force before elegance, force and elegance before anything else! Clearness, fidelity, sincerity—'s help them—are only too often forgotten in the fanfaronade. Let me not be misunderstood. This temper—this bias, may we call it—is the work of years. And so long as Hamilton stands for discipline in the art of oral expression, it is an invaluable stimulus. But oral expression is but one extension— and the most ephemeral—of self expression. We must also encourage some few souls to work in quiet and calmness, moulding annd remodeling and polishing; critically, dispassionately, sincerely, lovingly, seekng the inevitable word, the perfect truth; treading carefully and reverently in the path of those who were the masters of the craft—who made literature. This perhaps *Lit.* can do.

The poem "Alone"—fronting that very acceptable half-tone of the Campus—has a certain largeness and mellowness of vowel sounds, and a firmness of accent that are praiseworthy. But the poem itself seems to me unfortunately chosen, for the stuff the poem is made of has little lyric quality. "M. C." might well acquaint himself with Lamb's "Old Familiar Faces"—an apt fitting of form to theme. Such phrases as "last good time," "strolling o'er the Campus grass," "Of all that college meant," have a bromidic flavor. The inversion,

"And dear the memories now do throng
Of happy days that pass,"

is unhappy.

"For memory can never go—
We pass, and Death is met,"

is—well, it is unfortunate, at least.

If we accept one of Wordsworth's definitions of poetry—"Emotion recollected in tranquillity"—as even partially adequate, "Alone" surely falls so far short of poetry. The emotion has, of course, never been experienced by the singer, nor has his imagination grasped it sufficiently to give the poem any convincing touch of reality. If this is "M. C.'s" first canter on Pegasus, (I don't recall seeing those initials before) his horsemanship is fairly creditable.

The "Ode from an August Eve's Despair" merits all the editorial bouquets. *Lit.* has had no such clever bit of artifice since Paull Baum's immortal "Oh Thou, My Hob-nailed Shoe." The idea of the verses is admirably consistent in its working out, and the versification, in its flowing and conscious play with rime shows some little mastery of a certain technique. What characterization in

"Minx with puffs!"

and

"Deign to prod the Puffs, my Queen!"

There is hardly enough substance to carry "A Heart of Mica" thru. It seems frequently to lack cohesion. Some of the descriptive touches are excellent, and as a whole the style is clear and direct, tho some of the intended pathos is mere sentimentality.

The great advantage that Sherwin has over most undergraduate scribblers is that he has happily hit upon something to write about—and he's made good use of it. "The Legends of the Harz" seems to me one of the best of his German sketches—for after all it's quite comparable to his travel letters. The compression and movement and vividness of his description of *Walpurgisnacht* is rather unusual—despite some proper debt to Goethe (or is it Shelley). Sherwin's writing is

generally pretty clear and direct—but he plays the humdrum too exclusively and the ponderous oratorical roll and mouthing of his sentences is ultimately monotonous. He lacks variety and the lighter touch, but works readily in terms of power and force.

The "Vignettes" are bits of first-rate work. Wisehart's steady and substantial progress towards good writing is a splendid example of what persistence, study, and sheer hard work can do for a man. If Wisehart lacks a bit of ease and grace and felicity, he repays us amply with the sterner straightforwardness and careful workmanship and sincerity. We feel that whatever his work is, there is heart in it. In his short sketches Wisehart's touch is pretty sure; each of these 'Vignettes' stands out as artistic work; they have beginning and middle and end; here and there about them there are some constructive touches, and, above all, it seems to me, there is in them some real observation, some touch of mankind's nature portrayed with fidelity. "The Bookman's Prayer"—or whatever the title was—was a rather illuminating bit of Wisehart's literary autobiography.

And now to "Longwood" — and Dounce. Heaven only knows how Dounce writes so much, and so well as he does,—or how he writes so much so well as he does. Query one, Isn't he writing too much? "Longwood" seems to me—and perhaps to its author—one of the poorest things Dounce has let wander irresponsibly out of his workshop. Personally, it might be ungracious to criticise adversely one who writes so much better than I ever shall—but critically it is simply duty.

Perhaps Dounce meant that first paragraph as a joke. After some reflection I thought he was to be taken seriously. At any rate, look at it! "Of all clear joys that life affords to those who have deserved by living rightly, the cleanest and finest, I think, is Lawn Tennis." Sounds good, but how false! And the pathos of it! Dounce says, "I think," but he doesn't. Arrant nonsense! And again,—"When played by master hands the game becomes a poem," etc. "A poem, I said? A flower—the ultimate exquisite blossoming, like a century plant efflorescence"—efflorescence! Oh, Mr. Dounce! Let me, from the rough, unsympathetic frontiers of Philistinism, raise the cold plaint of mere average low-toned man — Spliffle! — and again, Splufludge! Perhaps that first paragraph is a joke.

I admire immensely Dounce's real power as a writer—as an imaginative writer. But despite his versatility some things he attempts he really doesn't do well. Perhaps he lacks a sense of fitness. He writes a review of the football season as he would describe the "Inferno" or the nebular hypothesis or a tea party. He plays the same music in church as in the barroom. He throws a network of fallacy over the simplest and most innocent phenomena of inanimate nature. At times it reads like the RECORD.—What?

Of course there is excellent work in "Longwood,"—in certain respects far above anything the *Lit* has from other pens. Nothing I could say could hurt Dounce's position and I do hope my comment is not wholly destructive.

"The Goddess From the Car," is a fairly clever and easily readable take-off on some types of modern romance. It surprises me—tho I confess to little reading in modern fiction—that the heroine's nose is "conventionally aquiline," and could a man take his leave "with mutual regret."

The departments of the *Lit* maintain their usually competent standard. Why not turn over a goodly bundle of the *Lit's de luxe* to the Press Club for general distribution?

The White Knight has good ideas —perhaps—on the justice of the mode of selecting the debaters. Personally, I think our debating interests would be conserved and bettered by continuing to choose teams,—probably by open competition to be sure—from the upper classes. Winning debate teams, however, are not entirely the result of an election system. They are made by *work.* Rigorous drudging preparation; keen, searching analysis of propositions; implacate, fierce, insistent, on sufficient *preparation,* on sound *thinking,* or *mastery—persuasive mastery—of materials; work, preparation, drill;* these and these alone can raise the standard of Hamilton debating, which I am convinced is lower than that of most colleges, *in practical efficiency.* I wish Prof. Lewis God-speed in the arduous task of readjusting this work to real, work-a-day world values.

We are glad to hear a final and official word on the question of athleticism and scholarships. While we can't all always agree with the power that be —he wouldn't want us to—and while I feel that such a misunderstanding is but an instance of the many misunderstandings or misrepresentations or misapprehensions which have caused considerable apparent discontent among tutors, and students and particularly among alumni;—we, and particularly the undergraduates, perhaps, must not forget, amid the exhilarating din of hammers and knockers, that a good many things for which the college stands are still matters for our pride largely because Dr. Stryker stood for them. No one has supported our athletics more whole-heartedly and efficiciently as Prex, and while we do wish he would herd us some beef and skin the diamond and either twist the tennis court or move the sun, these are irritations of a largely cutaneous nature which may some day be happily remedied.

The present form of the *Lit* is excellent. A few typographical errors persisted even to the final imprint.

A. M. DRUMMOND, '06

## RELAY PROSPECTS

This year the Track Management has arranged three relay meets and there is a possibility of a good many more if we have a fast team. The first of these meets is at Albany on Feb. 8. The second is at Troy on the 22nd of the same month, while the third is at Madison Square Garden on the 12th of March. This is a starter. The manager has worked hard to give the team an attractive schedule and will add other meets to the list if the caliber of the team deserves it. Now the College should make this season a success. A winning team cannot be made by one or two men. To make a successful season there should be two relay teams that are almost equal in speed, so that the men on the Varsity have to work to keep their positions.

A man who runs in the Albany meet will not keep his place on the team if another develops who is better than he; so there is always a chance for a fellow to make his letter in Relay if he will work. Every man in college who has ever run, should report for practice every afternoon. Four positions need to be filled and the four fastest men in college—who are willing to work—will get them, regardless of everything but speed. No one is sure of making the team.

All out at 4:30 every day.

## SYRACUSE ALUMNI

The Alumni banquet of the Hamilton Alumni association was held the evening of Dec. 28 at Hotel Sterling in Syracuse. Covers were laid for thirty. Dr. Myron E. Cramer, '80, presided. Among the speakers were Charles L. Mosher, '99, John D. Bigelow, '80, Dr. Eugene W. Lyttle, '78, Dr. M. W. Stryker, '72, Ralph W. Swetman, '07, Harry E. Dounce, '10. Charles L. Mosher, '99, was elected president and Clements Blodgett, '09, secretary of the association.

Sidle has been elected captain, and Mitchell manager, of the Junior Basketball Team.

The Kappa Beta Phi society held a theater party at the Shubert Saturday.

Armistead, ex. 11, has re-entered in the Sophomore Class.

Flagler, '11, has re-entered college from the University of Wisconsin.

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